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Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

TEMP Max 26 | Min 13 | Humidity 32% Plenty of sunshine Sensex 81,537 | Nifty 25,048 | Gold 1,55,963 | Silver 3,34,601 | Dollar 91.86 | Euro 107.88 | GBP 124.26

Going to the hospital or nearby medical shop in a hurry — Whatever be the reason, no excuse will help you get away with riding/driving on the wrong side, warn cops, who have booked 9,650 cases of this offence in special drive over 3 days

THINKING OF CUTTING CORNERS? THINK AGAIN

Vehicle seizure, licence cancellation likely punishments

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With wrong-side driving fast emerging as a menace on city roads, the traffic police have issued a stern warning that no excuses will be entertained. Since January 21, in just three days, as many as 9,650 cases have been booked across the city. According to official data, last year in total, 31% of challans were issued through direct and contactless enforcement for wrong side driving violations.

As part of a special drive launched on January 21 by the police against wrong-way driving, offenders face vehicle seizure, cases under dangerous driving provisions, and even cancellation of licences to enforce strict traffic discipline. The crackdown is aimed at curbing accidents and ensuring safer roads for commuters.

According to traffic officials from Kamakshipalya, the most common

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11 »

HEAVY TOLL

Commuters in city and surrounding areas have to shell out most as they host highest concentration of toll plazas in the state

PAGE 3

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THINGS TO DO

01 Classical debut

Sisters Bhoomika SR and Bhavana SR, disciples of Guru Veena Sridhar Morab from Nityaradhana School of Bharatanatyam, will present their Rangapravesha. The performance will feature live orchestral accompaniment by accomplished classical musicians. **Where: Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Malleshwaram; When: January 25, 5 pm**

02 Kindness & creativity

Dipna Daryanani, educator and children's author, leads a read-aloud and activity session inspired by her picture book About the Friend in My Heart. The event encourages empathy, kindness, and creative engagement for young readers and families. **Where: Champaca Bookstore, Indiranagar; When: January 25, 11 am**

03 Love & lyrics

This Valentine's Day, Faheem Abdullah, the Kashmiri singer-songwriter behind hits like Saiyaara and Ishq, performs his first main-stage concert in Bengaluru. A Bangalore alumnus, Faheem's poetic songwriting and cinematic style reflect his city years, blending music and storytelling.

Where: Bhartiya Mall of Bengaluru, Thanisandra Main Road; When: February 14, 7:30 pm

04 Dance & beats

Indiranagar SOCIAL hosts the second anniversary of Honey Mustard Party. The Bengaluru-based electronic music collective showcases local talent with headliners Raka Ashok, Master Shifu, Alika, and debutante Devyani. Expect long-format DJ sets, a mix of house and disco, and an immersive, community-driven dance experience. **Where: Socials, Indiranagar; When: January 25, 7 pm**

05 Art, music, dance

BLR Hubba continues its final stretch with a full day of heritage walks, workshops, neighbourhood trails, and performances across the city. Check https://blrhubba.in/events for more details. **Where: Multiple locations across the city; When: January 25, 11 am**

Survey maps transgender lives, guides welfare pushes statewide policy

Baseline study across all districts reveals population, age, identity shifts, shaping housing, education, health, and employment interventions for transgender communities

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State's first comprehensive 2025-26 transgender survey enumerates 10,365 persons, highlights Bengaluru and northern districts, tracks demographic transitions, and underpins planned welfare boards, reservations, skills training, scholarships, housing support initiatives, programmes

The Women and Child Development Department, in coordination with the Karnataka State Women's Development Corporation, has submitted the much-awaited 2025-26 baseline survey of transgender persons to the state government. The survey, conducted across all 31 districts from September 15, 2025, aims to understand the living conditions, social profile, and challenges faced by the transgender community in Karnataka.

The survey identifies a total of 10,365 transgender persons in the state, including 10,250 adults above 18 years and 115 children below 18. Bengaluru Urban district accounts for 757 adults, while other districts reporting high numbers include Vijayapura with 1,428 persons, Chikkaballapur with 1,252, Kolar with 638, and Belagavi with 618.

Age-wise analysis shows that a majority of the transgender population falls within the middle-age bracket. Across Karnataka, 2,931 persons are aged between 19 and 30 years, 4,619 are between 31 and 45 years, 2,132 fall in the 46 to 60 age group, and 568 are above 60. In Bengaluru Urban, 226 persons are aged 19 to 30, 403 are between 31 and 45, 118 are between 46 and 60, and 10 are above 60. At birth, 7,998 individuals were recorded as male, 2,123 as female, and 129 as intersex. In terms of self-identification, 3,736 now identify as male, 517 as female, and 5,699 as transgender, reflecting a significant shift in gender identity. The survey also notes that nearly half of the community is married, with 4,735 married persons accounting for 46.2 per cent, while 5,444 persons, or 53.1 per cent, are unmarried. Marital status was not reported by 71 individuals.

The survey collected detailed information on education, family acceptance, employment, income levels, housing, land ownership, access to government schemes, health care, skill development, gender affirmation procedures, and availability of basic amenities. Officials said the data would guide planning of welfare measures, education and employment reservations, housing support, skill training, and social protection initiatives.

Minister for Women and Child Welfare Laxmi Hebbalkar said the survey provided data to protect rights, prevent discrimination, and integrate transgender persons into mainstream society. She said the government would prioritise housing, scholarships, coaching, skill programmes, expansion of welfare schemes, and may set up a Transgender Welfare Board.

Upper primary teachers now eligible for head posts

The State government has initiated a major reform to allow teachers of upper primary schools, including graduate primary teachers handling Classes 6 to 8, to be promoted as head teachers, a benefit earlier limited to lower primary school teachers. To enable this, the government will amend long-standing recruitment rules, under which two of every three head teacher posts will be reserved for primary school teachers of Classes 1 to 5 and one for graduate primary teachers. A minimum of 12 years of service will be mandatory for promotion and will apply uniformly to both categories.

Until now, teachers handling Classes 6 to 8 had no promotion avenue, resulting in many retiring without career advancement. Sources said the proposed amendment under the Karnataka Education Department Services (Recruitment) Second Amendment Rules, 2026, is expected to help fill nearly 9,000 vacant head teacher posts that have remained unfilled for four years. Draft rules have been released, inviting objections for 15 days, to be submitted in writing to the Additional Chief Secretary of the School Education and Literacy Department.

— BMB

SSLC toppers to receive cash incentives

The School Education and Literacy Department has issued a circular stating that students who achieve the highest marks in the 2024–25 SSLC examination after studying in government schools will be awarded cash incentives instead of laptops. The decision represents a shift from last year's approval to distribute laptops under the Quality Assurance and Student Motivation Programme. Accordingly, the Rs 3.25 crore earmarked for this purpose will be disbursed to 758 students at Rs 50,000 each. Officials said that the amount will be credited via DBT to bank accounts linked to students' Aadhaar numbers through the State Scholarship Portal. The circular, issued by the Under Secretary (Planning), also directs that any shortfall in funds be met from the School Examination and Evaluation Board's own resources.

— BMB

Readying for Republic Day

Preparations for the 77th Republic Day Celebrations at Manekshaw Parade Grounds, in Bengaluru on Saturday

High toll frequency in Bengaluru raises costs for daily commuters

City hosts densest toll cluster in Karnataka, hitting residents and commercial vehicles alike

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Recent Parliament data reveals Bengaluru Urban and Rural districts house 13 toll plazas over 236 km, far outpacing other districts. Daily travellers on short stretches pay repeatedly, increasing commuting costs, while surrounding districts with longer highways operate fewer plazas.

Commuters in Bengaluru face a heavier toll burden than most other districts in Karnataka, with the city and its surrounding areas hosting the highest concentration of fee plazas in the state, according to recent data tabled in Parliament by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari. With both Bengaluru Urban and Bengaluru Rural districts under significant toll influence, daily travellers encounter multiple toll points along short stretches, driving up the cost of commuting for residents and commercial vehicles alike.

Urban Congestion

Bengaluru Urban district stretches 73.59 km under toll influence but is serviced by six fee plazas, while Bengaluru Rural spans 163.14 km with seven plazas. Together, the Bengaluru region has 13 plazas across 236 km, the densest cluster in the state. By contrast, Belagavi, one of Karnataka's longest tolled districts at 213.8 km, has just four plazas, and Chitradurga, with 258.59 km, operates three plazas. For locals, this means shorter stretches often require repeated toll payments, adding up to a higher overall commuting cost.

Commuter Impact

For daily commuters, especially those travelling from Bengaluru's outskirts into the city, tolls are a recurring expense. Bengaluru South district has 47.8 km of highway under toll influence but currently no fee plaza, hinting at future toll expansions.

Meanwhile, districts like Kolar (153.48 km, four plazas) and Mandya (126.12 km, four plazas) also contribute to the cumulative toll burden on commuters entering or leaving Bengaluru, highlighting the capital's disproportionate share of toll infrastructure relative to actual highway length.

Across Karnataka, several districts with long tolled stretches—Chitradurga (258.59 km), Tumakuru (176.56 km), and Hassan (152.71 km)—have fewer fee plazas, meaning commuters there may pay less frequently despite longer highway travel. Bengaluru, however, sees a high plaza density, reflecting its position as a major industrial, IT, and logistics hub, where heavy vehicle and commuter traffic converge.

Under the National Highways Fee Rules, 2008, user fees are levied on completed highway sections with clear rate notifications and exemptions displayed at plazas and online via the Rajmarg Yatra Portal. While the system ensures transparency, the concentration of toll plazas in Bengaluru makes commuting costlier and more frequent, particularly for those traversing the city's main arteries daily.

Ramappa K, who owns trucks, said, "High toll frequency in Bengaluru not only impacts daily commuters but also logistics and commercial transportation, with cumulative costs affecting the pricing of goods and services. As the city expands and highway networks become busier, residents are likely to see increased cumulative toll expenses, setting Bengaluru apart from other districts where toll booths are more spread out."

Karnataka's highways are among the costliest for commuters in southern India, with 66 toll plazas covering 3,086 km, making it the busiest toll network in the region. While Tamil Nadu has 74 plazas over 3,692 km and Andhra Pradesh 85 plazas across 4,586 km, Karnataka's plaza density is higher, hitting drivers more frequently per kilometre, especially around Bengaluru.

Larger northern states like Rajasthan (172 plazas, 8,613 km) and Uttar Pradesh (137 plazas, 6,536 km) cover more ground, but their tolls are more spread out. Kerala (eight plazas, 259 km) and Telangana (35 plazas, 1,639 km) remain far behind, underlining Karnataka commuters' disproportionate toll burden despite shorter highways.

High plaza concentration along key corridors around Bengaluru highlights the financial strain on daily drivers and freight operators.

Man attempts suicide outside Vidhana Soudha

A 38-year-old individual allegedly attempted suicide by consuming poison in front of the Vidhana Soudha near the Dr Ambedkar statue on Saturday morning around 11:20, after he was allegedly assaulted by police officials for exposing illegal Bangladeshi immigrants.

The man has been identified as Dr Nagendra Shiru, an ayurvedic doctor at a private hospital in Electronic City. According to police officials, Nagendra was accused in a "moral policing" case registered at the Soladevanahalli police station. Nagendrappa, a right-wing activist, along with Puneeth Kerehalli, claimed to have exposed illegal Bangladeshi residents in the city. He had earlier informed the police that he had reported the presence of illegal immigrants but later alleged that the police did not respond appropriately to his complaint.

Police further said that when Soladevanahalli officers went to arrest him in connection with the case, he, in an apparent act of spite, attempted to consume poison in front of the Vidhana Soudha on Saturday morning. Personnel from the Vidhana Soudha police, who noticed him in the act, immediately intervened and seized the bottle of poison.

He was rushed immediately to Bowring Hospital, where his condition is now reported to be stable. Further investigation is under way to ascertain the circumstances that led to the suicide attempt. Meanwhile, the Soladevanahalli sub-inspector has filed a complaint at the Vidhana Soudha police station, stating that a case had been registered against Nagendra and that he attempted to take his life in an effort to compel or restrain public servants from discharging their lawful duties, an offence punishable under Section 226 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. **BMB**

Constable held after POCSO complaint

Upparpet police have arrested a 32-year-old police constable on charges of sexually harassing a PUC student, in a case that has raised serious concerns over misconduct within the force.

The accused has been identified as Yamuna Nayak, a constable attached to the RT Nagar police station. According to police officials, Nayak was recently posted as a security guard at Independence Park when the alleged incident took place.

Based on a complaint lodged by the student, the Upparpet police registered a case under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and initiated an investigation. The complainant alleged that the constable sexually harassed the student while he was on duty at the park on Friday. Following a preliminary inquiry, the police arrested the accused and produced him before a magistrate. **BMB**

Social media deepfakes target FM

A complaint has been filed at the Malleswaram police station regarding the circulation of deepfake images of Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on social media, allegedly aimed at deceiving the public and causing financial losses. According to the complaint, the incident came to light on January 22, 2026, when fake images and posts of the Finance Minister began circulating on Facebook using artificial intelligence technology. The manipulated images reportedly showed a digitally altered photograph of Nirmala Sitharaman promoting a fraudulent financial investment scheme.

Upon verification, the content was found to be a deepfake not posted by the Finance Minister, intended to mislead people into investing. Police warned it could cause financial losses, damage reputations, and create public distrust. A case has been registered against unknown persons, and an investigation is under way. **BMB**

Late-night roadside assault: 4 arrested

In a late-night incident, a young woman was allegedly sexually harassed by a group of youths in Maruthi Nagar, prompting swift action by the Madiwala police, who arrested four accused in connection with the case.

According to the police, the incident occurred when the woman was standing by the roadside speaking with her friend. At that time, a group of youths, who were reportedly partying at a nearby house, came out to buy cigarettes. The men allegedly passed lewd remarks and teased the woman, triggering a verbal confrontation.

When the woman and her friend objected, the situation escalated into a physical assault, during which the woman was allegedly sexually harassed, police said. Based on her complaint, four accused were arrested, and a case was registered. Police are investigating the incident and said strict action will be taken against those found guilty. **BMB**

Broken road gratings turn CBD upgrades into fresh safety hazard

Poor quality metal gratings on upgraded central roads spark safety fears, prompting calls for urgent inspections and accountability from engineers

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Roads in the city are notorious for potholes and craters all these years. Now, broken gratings add one more feather to the roads in the Central Business District (CBD) in the city.

These roads were developed and upgraded by spending crores of rupees a few years ago. While the stretches have largely remained free of potholes, broken metal gratings have emerged as a new eyesore and a serious safety hazard. Motorists, particularly two-wheeler riders, say the damaged gratings pose a constant risk, especially during peak traffic hours.

A metal grating near the Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) office on Swami Vivekananda Road broke a few days ago, but the authorities concerned attended to the issue only on Thursday. In the interim, a nearby shop owner placed a broken plastic tray over the damaged spot to alert motorists and prevent accidents. Commuters pointed out that another grating just a few metres away appears weak and is likely to collapse soon. This is not the first time the issue has surfaced. Bangalore Mirror had published a report titled Grating neglect sparks public outcry on October 27, 2025, highlighting a broken metal grating on Swami Vivekananda Road, opposite Lido Mall, which had caused inconvenience to motorists. Following the report, Bengaluru Central City Corporation (BCCC) authorities replaced the damaged grating.

However, motorists now question the quality of materials being used. "Metal gratings are breaking due to poor quality. Officials responsible for inspecting these works should be held accountable for wasting taxpayers' money," said BR Chandran, a social activist. While appreciating the prompt replacement of the recently broken grating, he stressed that BCCC engineers must ensure durability and quality in all developmental works.

Two-wheeler rider Purushotham N said broken gratings are particularly dangerous for riders. "A few months ago, another grating near a BMTC bus stop was replaced. The engineers should have checked the quality and durability of nearby gratings as well and replaced those with cracks before they failed," he said. Echoing similar concerns, auto-rickshaw driver Ashok K urged authorities to conduct a comprehensive inspection. "Gratings on MG Road, Brigade Road, Swami Vivekananda Road and Residency Road should be inspected immediately. Instead of waiting for them to break, cracked gratings should be replaced in advance to prevent accidents," he said.

Repeated failures of newly installed gratings on Swami Vivekananda Road expose material lapses, forcing citizens to self-barricade hazards while demanding proactive replacement across MG Road, Brigade Road and Residency Road

(1)The condition of the broken grating on Swami Vivekananda Road till Thursday morning; (2) Finally the authorities replaced the broken grating on Thursday; (3) Another metal grating at the same stretch appears weak and is likely to break soon.

700 objections pour in over ward reservations

The deadline set by the Urban Development Department for submitting objections and suggestions to the draft ward reservation list for 369 wards across five municipal corporations under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has concluded, with officials confirming receipt of over 700 representations. The draft list, released on January 9 as part of preparations for elections to the five civic bodies, allowed objections to be filed until January 23, either online or in person.

Sources said a majority of objections relate to inadequate consideration of local caste-based reservation patterns and the alleged failure to implement the mandatory 50 per cent reservation for women. While norms require 185 wards to be reserved for women, the draft list earmarked only 176, triggering demands to include nine additional wards. Complaints have also been raised over perceived inconsistencies in reservation allocation across certain wards. Officials said all representations are being examined, and the final reservation list is expected in the first week of February. — BMB

Auto land clearance boosts renewable projects

The state government has introduced a new digital platform to enable automatic land conversion for renewable energy projects; a move aimed at streamlining approvals and speeding up project execution. Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda said the software, developed by the Revenue Department, provides for deemed land conversion if no decision is taken on an application within 30 days.

The initiative follows recent amendments to the Karnataka Land Revenue Act, 1964, and the Karnataka Land Revenue Rules, 1995, and seeks to exempt renewable energy projects from lengthy land conversion processes while ensuring time-bound clearances.

After a successful pilot in Chikkaballapur district, the system has now been rolled out statewide. Gowda said the platform supports Karnataka's commitment to India's target of 500 GW renewable energy capacity by 2030. He added that the model system would significantly improve ease of doing business and attract large-scale investments in the sector, which accounted for nearly 40 per cent of commitments at the Global Investors Meet 2025. — BMB

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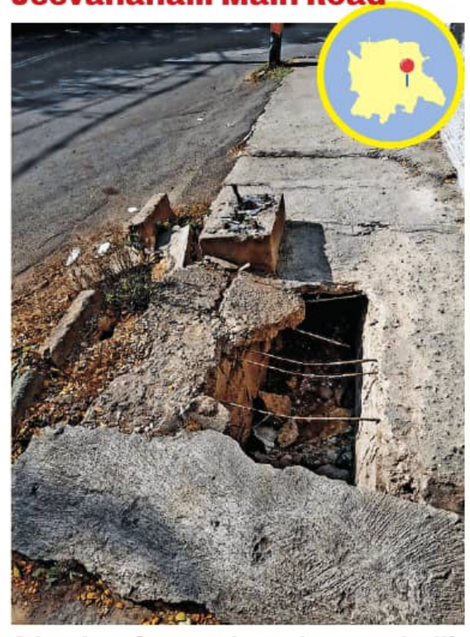
Road hazard
Benson Town

The Benson Town main road from the Nandidurg entrance to Indian Bank is severely damaged, poorly lit and unsafe for two-wheelers and pedestrians.

Road digging
Ramamurthy Nagar

The asphalt road near the Ganesh Temple on 3rd Main, Hoysala Nagar, was dug up, with locals attributing the work to BWSSB.

Footpath risk
Jeevanahalli Main Road



A broken footpath on Jeevanahalli Main Road poses daily danger to pedestrians and schoolchildren near MEG Officers Colony.

Rush-hour checks anger city commuters

Commuters and two-wheeler riders across the city have expressed strong resentment over frequent and arbitrary vehicle checks by traffic police at junctions and interior roads, both during the day and at night. Riders allege that police suddenly stop vehicles, ask them to dismount, demand documents and conduct alcohol checks without valid reasons, causing harassment and traffic disruption.

"Despite clear instructions issued last year by the Director General of Police to inspect vehicles only when there is valid cause, the guidelines are not being followed. Past incidents, including a fatal accident in Mandya during a vehicle check, have further intensified public concern over safety during such drives," said Richa Reddy, a college student.

However, while traffic police claim that enforcement drives are aimed at reducing accidents and violations, commuters complain that checks are carried out even during peak hours and at busy junctions, worsening congestion.

Senior officials have reiterated that random checks are prohibited during rush hours and have warned of suspension for personnel violating norms. Police have also stressed the use of technology, body-worn cameras and courteous behaviour during enforcement, even as special drives continue against drunk driving, wrong-side driving and other violations to improve road safety and traffic flow in the city. **–BMB**

Illegal hoardings face action as new GBA rules kick in

The installation of more than one advertising board in f ront of commercial establishments in the city has been prohibited under the newly enforced advertisement regulations of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA). Any shop wishing to install additional boards must obtain prior permission in accordance with the advertisement policy, failing which such displays will be treated as unauthorised.

East Zone Commissioner DS Ramesh has directed owners of commercial establishments to voluntarily remove all illegal advertisement boards, warning that unauthorised hoardings and LED displays violate the new norms.

Officials said weekly special drives would continue to curb illegal advertisements, ensuring public safety, smooth traffic flow and improved city aesthetics, with penalties to be imposed on violators. **–BMB**

Hosakerehalli Lake not open for public, but has turned into illegal parking lot for buses

School says it has required permissions, but GBA says it has not given the nod

School buses parked inside Hosakerehalli Lake premises

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Hosakerehalli's stalled restoration has worsened with unauthorised access, verbal approvals, civic confusion and continued sewage inflow, fuelling allegations of neglect and poor planning

After encroachment, pollution and garbage dumping, Hosakerehalli Lake in west Bengaluru is now facing a new threat due to illegal parking.

The waterbody area, which has been under lock and key for over a month, is being used as a parking space for a private school located adjacent to the lake. Locals allege that the entry gate is always locked and residents are not allowed access.

"I first encountered this problem when I visited the lake more than a month ago. The gate was locked. When I enquired with the security guard, they refused to open it, saying they had instructions not to unlock the gate for residents. The lake area was being used to park school vehicles, and I was told that another key to the gate was with the school authorities," said Naveen, a resident of Hosakerehalli.

Residents said that, upon enquiry, school authorities informed them that they had spoken to the ward engineer of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) and that school buses were being parked with permission.

When BM contacted Greenwood High School, the private institution using the lake area to park its buses, the school administration said the vehicles were being parked with permission from the GBA.

"We have received a key to the gate from a GBA official. We have kept the area clean as it is next to the school, and we use it to park our buses. Our vehicles are parked inside the lake area between 9 am and 4 pm, as instructed by GBA officials. While we do not have written permission to park inside the lake, we did receive verbal consent," said a representative of Greenwood High School.

However, officials from the West City Corporation wing of the GBA denied issuing any such permission.

"We have not issued any permission to any school. Lakes are public spaces and people should have access to them. Parking vehicles inside the lake area is not permitted. If any such arrangement has been made with the guard at the lake, we will take it up with the Home Guards department and resolve the issue," said a GBA official from the West City Corporation.

Rejuvenation in limbo

The rejuvenation of the 53-acre waterbody was taken up by the GBA, then the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), in 2022, but was immediately put on hold following the onset of the monsoon.

Concrete work and desilting at the lake were halted due to the rainy season. BBMP resumed work in December 2022, but it was again stopped abruptly after residents reported truckloads of soil being dumped in the middle of the lake by the civic body's contractor. Residents feared the move was an attempt to create a road bisecting the lake.

Since then, the waterbody has remained in a deplorable state.

According to the GBA, rejuvenation work is currently on hold due to a lack of funds.

Residents said the lake continues to receive sewage and has effectively turned into a dumping yard over the past few years.

"The lake is suffering due to official apathy. While rejuvenation was never completed, a cobblestone walking path has been laid around the lake. If rejuvenation resumes, heavy machinery will have to pass through the newly created walkway, which is bound to damage it. This reflects a lack of planning and haphazard management," said Rachana Ravi, a resident of Hosakerehalli.

Fresh fruits allowed, cooked food banned in jails

For the first time, the Karnataka Prisons and Correctional Services Department has framed comprehensive regulations governing the supply of food, clothing, and bedding to civil prisoners and unconvicted criminal (undertrial) prisoners from private sources, with immediate effect.

Issued under Section 30 of the Karnataka Prisons Act, 1963, the new rules strictly prohibit the entry of cooked food from outside into prisons. According to the document, the rules state that this decision was taken in view of concerns related to prison safety, security, staff shortages, overcrowding, administrative feasibility, and health risks. The department noted that all inmates are already provided with adequate food, clothing, and bedding in accordance with existing laws and prison manuals.

While cooked food is completely barred, a limited quantity of uncooked and packaged items may be supplied during admission or interviews, subject to strict inspection.

Fresh fruits such as bananas, apples, mangoes, guavas, and chikoo are permitted up to two kilograms per person per week. Dry fruits, including almonds, cashews, walnuts, and raisins, are allowed up to half a kilogram, along with bakery and confectionery items such as biscuits, cookies, namkeens, and chips. No other food items will be permitted.

The rules apply uniformly to all prisons in Karnataka and cover only civil and undertrial prisoners. The regulations also limit clothing to two pairs of outer garments and two pairs of underwear, in addition to the clothes worn at admission, with excess items liable to seizure. Bedding from outside is generally barred, though one additional blanket may be allowed on request, subject to inspection. **–BMB**

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO

SILENT ANT IMPOSTOR DANGEROUSLY DECEPTIVE

Our reader shares a striking image capturing an ant-mimicking spider (Myrmarachne) seamlessly blending into a bustling weaver ant colony, preying unnoticed amid the chaos. The spider imitates the ants' appearance and behaviour, mingles freely among thousands of workers, swiftly seizes a nearby ant, and injects venom before feeding at leisure—while the colony remains oblivious to the attack.

The picture was clicked by reader **S Sampath Kumari**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

New GBA corporations draft first budgets amid heavy state dependence

Bengaluru's five civic corporations seek public input while awaiting state grants to finalise decentralised budgets for 2026–27 financial year planning

The newly formed civic corporations under the Greater Bengaluru Authority have begun preparatory work to present their first independent budgets, marking a major transition in the city's municipal governance framework. With state government grants forming the financial backbone, the corporations are drafting expenditure plans for the 2026–27 financial year, with an emphasis on comprehensive and balanced urban development.

For the first time, Bengaluru East, West, Central, North and South corporations will present separate budgets, replacing the earlier unified budget model of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike. Officials said this shift reflects the intent to decentralise administration and tailor development priorities to the specific needs of each zone. Bengaluru Central and some other corporations have already invited suggestions from citizens, organisations and civil society groups to incorporate public feedback into budget planning.

Municipal commissioners have been directed to submit realistic, detailed proposals as state allocations remain central to 2026–27 budget planning

According to officials, the corporations are seeking inputs to ensure budgetary focus on basic infrastructure, public health, safety, environmental protection and social welfare, with the broader objective of achieving sustainable and equitable city development.

In 2025–26, BBMP had presented a budget of ₹19,930.64 crore, later revised to ₹20,441.33 crore following additional allocations. That year saw unprecedented state funding for major infrastructure works such as underground roads, white-topping, elevated corridors and canal development. BBMP had also created the B-Style Corporation to oversee project implementation and long-term maintenance.

The formed GBA corporations are preparing separate budgets, largely tied to state allocations, even as civic groups question transparency, citizen participation, and accountability in the absence of elected ward-level representatives

The upcoming budgets are expected to indicate how funds will be distributed among major initiatives, including solid waste management, mobility projects and civic infrastructure upgrades. Officials said several large-scale projects announced earlier by Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar are likely to feature prominently, including the Bengaluru Comprehensive Traffic Management Plan and underground road construction along the North–South corridor.

Sources said the corporations will finalise their budgets only after the state announces allocations. Recently, Finance Secretary Dr C Narayanaswamy met municipal commissioners, instructing them to submit detailed and realistic proposals to the authority. Civil society groups, however, have raised concerns over the absence of elected corporators, ward committees and area sabhas. **— BMB**

DID YOU KNOW?

A new study shows that earthquake monitoring systems can help track falling space debris by detecting the sonic booms created as objects re-enter Earth's atmosphere. Scientists found that seismic signals from the 2024 re-entry of a discarded Chinese module over Southern California enabled them to map its path far more accurately than orbital radar predictions. The research, led by Benjamin Fernando of Johns Hopkins University, analysed data from more than 120 seismometers that recorded multiple sonic booms as the object broke apart. By reconstructing those signals, the team placed the debris trajectory about 20 miles south of earlier estimates. The findings were published in science. Fernando collaborated with Imperial College London researcher Constantinos Charalambous and has since used similar methods to track other re-entries, including debris from failed SpaceX Starship tests. As satellite numbers surge, scientists warn of growing risks, including potential aircraft strikes. Rapid seismic tracking could help identify debris fall zones quickly, especially for hazardous materials. NASA may also benefit as it prepares for the controlled deorbit of the International Space Station. **— AP**

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

BUST FAKE NEWS WITH BANGALORE MIRROR

Write to us at mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

"Embrace the penguin": White House shares AI-generated Greenland image amid renewed Arctic push

The Claim: Donald Trump insists the United States will secure Greenland—through tariffs, negotiations, or unspecified "framework" deals—and continues to publicize AI imagery promoting U S control, asserting strategic and security imperatives.
Fact: Greenland remains Danish territory; Trump paused planned tariffs tied to his Greenland demands after a Davos meeting and NATO talks, and no formal transfer of sovereignty has occurred.

Even as proposed tariffs on Europe linked to Greenland have been put on hold, US President Donald Trump has continued to signal sustained interest in the Arctic territory. The White House on Saturday renewed focus on the issue by sharing an AI-generated image of the 79-year-old president walking towards Greenland alongside a penguin, with the caption, "Embrace the penguin."

Trump has for months publicly described Greenland as strategically vital to US national security. He had earlier warned Denmark, which administers Greenland, that failure to reach an agreement could lead Washington to use military force to take control of the territory.

Those remarks prompted Denmark and several European allies to deploy troops to Greenland, further straining ties. The situation escalated when Trump announced 10 percent tariffs on seven European Union countries and the United Kingdom, linking the move directly to the Greenland dispute. The tariffs were later withdrawn. Trump announced the cancellation after a recent meeting with Mark Rutte in Davos, Switzerland, on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum. He said a framework for a Greenland agreement that would benefit both Europe and the United States would be unveiled soon.

In the run-up to this, Trump had also shared a separate AI-generated image portraying Greenland as part of the United States, with JD Vance and Marco Rubio alongside him as he plants the American flag, reinforcing his assertive stance on the territory. The debate intensified further after Trump posted another AI-generated image on Truth Social, showing an expanded map of the United States that included Greenland, Canada and Venezuela. The image appeared to be digitally altered from a real photograph taken during his August 2025 meeting with European leaders, with the enlarged map inserted in the background.

Trump first raised the idea of acquiring Greenland after taking office last year, but his rhetoric has sharpened in recent weeks. Over the weekend, he threatened to impose a 10 per cent tariff on eight European countries, a move that unsettled investors. He continued to press the issue during a speech lasting over an hour at Davos on Wednesday, before meeting the head of NATO and announcing plans for a new agreement, the details of which remain undefined.

When asked on Thursday what he would be willing to pay for the semi-autonomous territory, Trump said, "We're going to not have to pay anything other than the fact that we are building the Golden Dome."

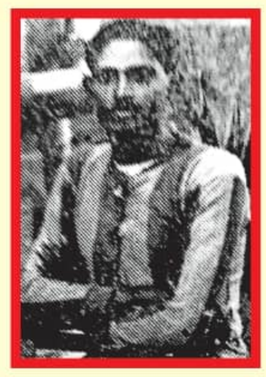
He added that any agreement would provide the United States "total access" to Greenland, including for military purposes, saying, "We're getting everything we want at no cost." **— ANI**

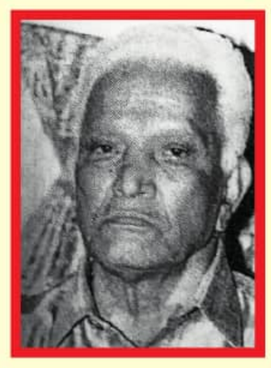
THE SUNDAY READ

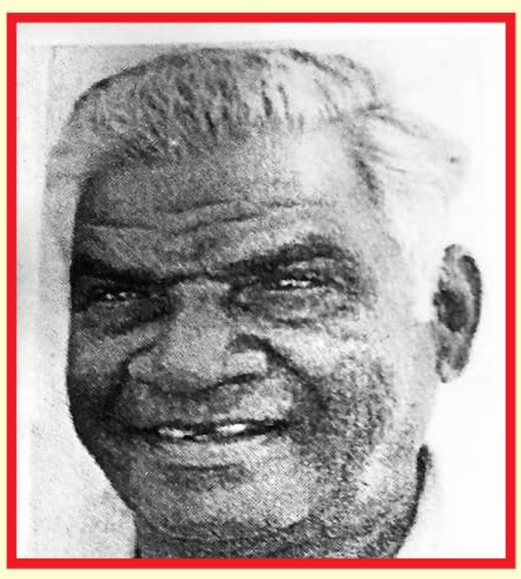
Legend at 100

1926 to 2026: All about the iconic Bangalore Blues Football Club

File photo of a Bangalore Blues match in 2010







Legendary players of Bangalore Blues: Ramanna, Laxminarayan, KV Varadaraj, BN Vajravelu, S Raman

The famous Bangalore Blues Football Club will be completing 100 years of its existence. Formed in 1926, Bangalore Blues produced a string of legendary players. But with the advent of Defence units and Public Sector undertakings since the 1960s, the once-glamorous club now barely survives in the lower rungs of state football as it completes a century of existence from the heights of popularity to the depths of oblivion in 2026.

As per some old club records, it was formed on August 20, 1926 when a few patriotic football lovers decided to form a strong team to oppose the British regimental teams stationed in the state and the country at that point of time. Clubs like Queen's Stars, Mars, Bangalore Crescents, Bangalore Muslims were a few civilian clubs which were already formed. But the individuals decided to merge Queens' Stars and Mars to form a stronger team. That idea and intent gave birth to Bangalore Blues Football Club.

Again as per club records, Kota Kamakshaiah Shetty was the first President from 1926 to 1943 with N Gangaiah as the General Secretary. Kota Shetty was succeeded by YV Sreenivasamurthy and later by BS Narayan. DN Rajanna, Sreeramaulu Naidu, IP Jithendra, VD Devadasan, BV Balaji, M. V Rajagopal, BK Ramaswamy, Chitti Babu, A Ranganna, AR Krishnakumar were some prominent officials who sacrificed a lot and served the club with distinction.

Bangalore Blues was a factory of great footballers. Massom, Mohammed Yaseen, played as a 'Guest player for Blues, Inside right Lakshminarayan, centre forward Ramanna, left winger Kareem, Sarangapani (Olympian Raman's father) were the dazzling stars who set the tone for the dominance of Bangalore Blues as a formidable outfit. Bangalore Blues were not only the feared rivals all over the country, but also the nursery from which legendary players rose.

Goalkeeper BN Kadrivelu and KV Varadaraj (1948 London and 1952 Helsinki Olympics), BN Vajravelu (1948 London Olympics), P Venkatesh (1952 Helsinki) turned out for India in the olympics. Varadaraj was also the goalkeeper when India won the Asian Games gold medal in 1951 in Delhi. Sarangapani Raman represented India in the London Olympics in 1948 when was with the Sullivan Police team. But Raman later turned out for Bangalore Blues and was famously called 'Blues Raman".

Stars like Nizamuddin, B Narayan Rao or Nari, as he was popularly known, Arokiaraj, B Jayaram, Khader, Krishna Jetty, Ramakrishna Rao, N Gangaiah, Gopinath, Srinivas Murthy, Appaiah, K Madurai, Haridas, Bernard, Pushparaj, Shankar Singh, etc.

Bangalore Blues won the Ashe Cup in 1933-34 and again in 1936-37, they won the Bangalore Senior Division League in 1948-49 and again in 1957-58. After being the runners-up to Mysore Rovers in the 1943 Stafford Cup, they emerged as the winners of south India's oldest tournament in 1956.

The oldest Bangalore Derby match was between Bangalore Blues and Bangalore Muslims which drew packed crowds every time they clashed in any tournament as both sides had legendary players many of whom had represented the state and the country at the highest levels right unto the Asian Games and Olympics Games football tournaments.

When Mysore won the National football championships for the Santosh Trophy for the first time in 1946-47 in Bangalore defeating Bengal 2-1 in the replayed final after the fist clash ended goalless, the team comprised many players from Bangalore Blues. So also in 1952-53 when Mysore defeated Bengal 1-0 in the final in Bangalore. Goalkeeper KV Varadaraj, Pushparaj, Bernard, John Sampangi, Nizamuddin and Arokiadass of Blues were part of the Mysore team. Nizamuddin netted the match-winner. In 1955-56, when Mysore lost to Bengal 1-0 at Ernakulam, more than half the team hailed from Bangalore Blues. Varadaraj, Jayaram, Shankar Singh, Ramakrishna Rao, Damodaran were part of the team.

With teams being allowed to have 'Guest players' for outstation tournaments, Bangalore Blues provided five players in goalkeeper Kadrivelu, Lakshminarayan, Murugesh, Kareem and Linganna to Bangalore Muslims when they became the first Indian club to win the Rovers Cup in Bombay in 1937.

The advent and proliferation of the Public Sector from the1960s, along with the Defence establishments, spelt the death knell of private clubs like Bangalore Blues, Bangalore Muslims, Crescents, Bangalore Mars, Muslim Heroes, Jawahar Union Fc, Jupiters FC, etc.

While Bangalore Blues continued to nurture players, most of them signed for public sector clubs as they scouted for employment opportunities. The club did not utilise its fame to build in future though the state government had sanctioned it a plot of land close to the Sree Kanteerava Stadium to build a club-house. It was adjacent to the Pallavi Theatre and was mired in some controversy. Now neither the theatre nor the parcel of land exists.

Bangalore Blues managed to keep its head above water and played in the B Division league for a number of years. It was later relegated to the C Division, the lowest in the Bangalore league structure. It still survives there but has been kept alive only because the officials involved have voting rights at the Bangalore District Football Association elections.

Perhaps, the BDFA and the Karnataka State Football Association with support from the All India Football Federation, as also the State Sports Ministry, could take the initiative to revive memories of the famed Bangalore Blues in its Centenary year with a series of activities.

After all, Bangalore Blues FC served not just Bangalore but also the state and country with great distinction as far as the class of players it produced right up to the 1950s. These legends made the country proud by their brilliance and unmatched exploits.

–By SS Shreekumar

Massom, Mohammed Yaseen, who played as a 'guest player' for Blues, Inside right Lakshminarayan, centre forward Ramanna, left winger Kareem, Sarangapani were the stars who set the tone for the dominance of Bangalore Blues as a formidable outfit

India releases white-paper on governance framework to balance innovation and risk

AI governance framework unveiled

India's Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser has released a white paper on AI governance, proposing a "techno-legal" framework to balance innovation and risk.

The framework integrates legal safeguards, technical controls, and institutional mechanisms to ensure trusted AI development, according to the Office of Principal Scientific Advisor to GoI press release.

'Strengthening AI Governance Through Techno-Legal Framework' outlines a comprehensive institutional mechanism to operationalise India's AI governance ecosystem, emphasising that the success of any policy instrument depends on its effective implementation.

The proposed framework aims to strengthen the broader AI governance ecosystem comprising industry, academia, government, AI model developers, deployers, and AI users.

Central to this initiative is the establishment of the AI Governance Group (AIGG), chaired by the Principal Scientific Adviser. This group will coordinate between various government ministries, regulators, and policy advisory bodies to address "the current fragmentation in governance and operational processes".

This database will draw on global best practices, such as the OECD AI Incident Monitor, but remains "adapted to fit India's sectoral realities and governance structures"

Within the techno-legal governance context, this coordination aims to establish uniform standards for responsible AI regulations and guidelines.

The AIGG will be tasked with "promoting responsible AI innovation and the beneficial deployment of AI in key sectors" while identifying regulatory gaps and recommending necessary legal amendments.

Supporting the AIGG is a dedicated Technology and Policy Expert Committee (TPEC) to be housed within the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). This committee will pool multidisciplinary expertise from areas such as Law, Public Policy, Machine Learning, AI safety, and cybersecurity.

According to the white paper, the TPEC will assist the AIGG on matters of national importance, including global developments in AI policy and emerging AI capabilities. The framework also introduces the AI Safety Institute (AISI), which will serve as the primary centre for "evaluating, testing, and ensuring the safety of AI systems deployed across sectors".

The AISI is expected to support the IndiaAI mission by developing techno-legal tools to address content authentication, bias, and cybersecurity. It will generate risk reports and compliance reviews to inform policy decisions while facilitating cross-border collaboration with global safety institutes and standards-setting bodies.

To monitor post-deployment risks, a national AI Incident Database will be established to record, classify, and analyse safety failures, biased outcomes, and security breaches nationwide.

This database will draw on global best practices, such as the OECD AI Incident Monitor, but remains "adapted to fit India's sectoral realities and governance structures."

Reports for this database will be submitted by public bodies, private entities, researchers, and civil society organisations.

The white paper further advocates for voluntary industry commitments and self-regulation. Industry-led practices, such as publishing transparency reports and conducting red-teaming exercises, are highlighted as vital for strengthening the techno-legal framework.

The government plans to offer financial, technical, and regulatory incentives to organisations that demonstrate leadership in responsible AI practices. Through these measures, the emphasis remains on "consistency, continuous learning and innovation" to prevent siloed approaches and provide clarity to businesses. **ANI**

US panel warns of online child abuse surge

Driven by social media, encrypted services, and emerging Artificial Intelligence tools, online child sexual exploitation is expanding fast, lawmakers and child-safety experts have told members of the US Congress.

"Protecting our children from online exploitation and abuse is one issue that unites all of us: Democrats, Republicans, parents, grandparents, and everyone in between," said Rep. Nancy Mace, who chaired the House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Government Innovation.

Ranking Member Shontel Brown said the volume and speed of distribution have changed the threat. Brown said, "These horrifying photos, videos, and records often referred to as CSAM, have dramatically increased as technology and the Internet have made it easier to share them faster and with more people."

Stefan Turkheimer, vice president of public policy at RAINN, said the crisis is being reported directly to the National Sexual Assault Hotline.

Turkheimer said, "Nearly half a million Americans reached out to the hotline last year." Since the pandemic began, he said, "calls from children have exploded." Turkheimer said, "68 per cent of calls to the hotline are about child sexual abuse."

Turkheimer said, "I'm here today because we face an urgent crisis at the intersection of technology and child safety."

He cited reporting to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, saying, "The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received over 32 million reports of suspected child sexual abuse materials in 2023, and that number will increase exponentially year after year."

Brad Russ, executive director of the National Criminal Justice Training Center, said Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task forces are being swamped by leads. Russ said, "The number of cyber tips last year disseminated to the task forces was 675,000." He called the workload "an overwhelming challenge."

Russ said, "What they tell me is that they're drowning right now." He told lawmakers, "Out of 71,000 investigative leads, only 500 were being actively investigated." **IANS**

BITS & BYTES

AI OFF LIMITS TO TEENS

Meta is halting teens' access to artificial intelligence characters, the company said in a blog post Friday. Meta Platforms Inc, which own Instagram and WhatsApp, said that starting in the "coming weeks," teens will no longer be able to access AI characters "until the updated experience is ready".

This applies to anyone who gave Meta a birthday that makes them a minor, as well as "people who claim to be adults but who we suspect are teens based on our age prediction tech." This comes a week before Meta is to stand trial in Los Angeles over its apps' harms to children. **AP**

UPI TO LAND IN JAPAN

India's QR-code payment network, the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), is expanding beyond its borders, with Japan among countries trialling the system to serve growing numbers of Indian tourists, a report has said.

The report from Nikkei Asia said that Japanese IT services company NTT Data is partnering with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to run a trial in Japan in FY26 that would let Indian tourists pay with UPI and have their Indian bank accounts debited.

"The companies are considering ways to connect Japanese and Indian payment networks," the report said.

The move aims to capture a surging number of Indian tourists as Japan received about 3.15 lakh visitors from India in 2025, up 35 per cent year-on-year. **IANS**

ADS MINUS PRIVACY

Tech giant OpenAI has reportedly announced plans to introduce advertising in ChatGPT in the United States, placing ads on the free version and the low-cost Go subscription while exempting Pro, Business and Enterprise users. OpenAI said that advertisements will be clearly separated from chatbot responses, will not influence outputs, and that it will not sell user conversations, according to multiple reports.

The company also pledged to let users turn off personalised ads and to avoid showing ads to users under 18 or around "sensitive" topics such as health and politics. The move has drawn criticism and unease from users. **IANS**

PSI exam scam: IPS officer's assets worth Rs 1.53 crore attached

Attached properties include residential assets owned by Amrit Paul, former Additional Director General of Police (Recruitment), and head constable Sridhar

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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The Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Bengaluru Zonal Office, on January 23 provisionally attached immovable assets valued at 1.53 crore in connection with the Police Sub-Inspector (PSI) recruitment scam, invoking provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

The attached properties include residential assets owned by Amrit Paul, former Additional Director General of Police (Recruitment), and Sridhar H, a head constable. Both are prime accused in the case. The attachment follows an FIR registered by the High Grounds Police Station, CID, Bengaluru, against several police officials and candidates over alleged irregularities in the 2021–22 PSI recruitment process.

IN FOCUS
ED action

Investigators found unaccounted cash collections through agents and consultants, with proceeds allegedly diverted for trustees' personal benefit

The Karnataka Police Recruitment Cell had conducted examinations to fill 545 PSI posts and released a provisional list of selected candidates. Soon after, allegations of cheating and manipulation of examination materials emerged, triggering multiple probes.

According to the ED, Amrit Paul played a key role in the conspiracy by enabling unauthorised access to the strong room where OMR answer sheets were stored. He allegedly handed over the keys of an almirah containing the strong room keys to Deputy Superintendent of Police Shanth Kumar, allowing accomplices, including Sridhar H, to tamper with answer sheets to favour undeserving candidates.

The investigation revealed that bribes ranging between ₹30 lakh and ₹70 lakh were collected per candidate. These proceeds were allegedly layered through fictitious hand loans and invested in residential properties, now attached. The ED has earlier filed a prosecution complaint, and the designated court has taken cognisance of money laundering charges. Further investigation into the money trail and other accused is ongoing.

Engineering seat scam: ED seizes trust assets

The Directorate of Enforcement, Bengaluru Zonal Office, has provisionally attached three immovable properties worth ₹19.46 crore in connection with the engineering seat-blocking scam involving the BMS Educational Trust. The attachment, comprising one plot and two flats, was carried out on January 21, 2026, under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002.

The probe was initiated based on FIRs filed by the Malleswaram and Hanumanthanagar police, which flagged irregularities in engineering admissions routed through the Karnataka Examinations Authority. Investigators allege that seats in colleges run by the trust were sold through middlemen, with large sums of unaccounted cash collected over and above prescribed fees. Searches conducted in May and June 2025 led to the seizure of ₹1.86 crore in cash and evidence of ₹20.20 crore in undisclosed collections.

SOCIALTATTLE

THAT WENT VIRAL

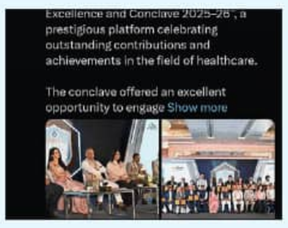
Unpopular opinion: Bengaluru's tra
Traffic-Transit | ಸಂಚಾರ-ವಿಶೇಷ
Hear me out.
I used to commute from Whitefield to Koramangala. 90 minu
eating at my desk, zero exercise.
Last year I switched to:
• Work from home 3 days
• Gym near my house at 6 AM (empty, no waiting)
• Walking to nearby restaurants instead of Swiggy
The traffic didn't get better. I just stopped fighting it.
Now I'm fitter than I was at 25. My resting heart rate dropped
Anyone else accidentally got healthier by giving up on the co

A man's post went viral on Reddit in which he says Bengaluru traffic made him healthier. "I have lost 8 kg without trying..." He describes how he did it and what giving up on commute have to do with it.

BANGALORE MIRROR TAGGED

Our story on a tea stall encroaching on a footpath was picked up by a reader, who posted it.

Dr CN Manjunath tagged Bangalore Mirror on X to describe participation in an event.


Excellence and Conclave 2025-26', a prestigious platform celebrating outstanding contributions and achievements in the field of healthcare.
The conclave offered an excellent opportunity to engage Show more

WHAT'S TWEETING

Aaraynsh
@aaraynsh
Unpopular opinion: Most of India's cleanliness, garbage, dirt and poor aesthetic issues are not because of the government but because of people's civic sense and their mentality toward public property.
Most people keep their homes clean but the moment they step into a public place they start littering. Even educated people become part of this garbage gang. Worse is, If you call them out, they get aggressive and say, Who are you? The government

@aarynsh writes on X an unpopular opinion about cleanliness and garbage about the niggling 'Indian' habit of keeping their homes clean but not caring much about trashing public spaces.

INBRIEF

Leopard captured after devotee killed

The Forest Department has captured the leopard responsible for the fatal attack on a devotee at Male Mahadeshwara Hills Wildlife Sanctuary, officials confirmed on Saturday. The animal was trapped late on Thursday night in the foothill region using drones and cages, following the death of 30-year-old Praveen.

Praveen, a resident of Cheeranahalli, was on a foot pilgrimage with four friends when the attack occurred late Tuesday night near Talubetta forest area. Preliminary investigations suggest he fell while trying to escape, after which the leopard mauled him and dragged his body nearly one kilometre into the forest. His body was recovered from a gorge the next morning.

The incident triggered concern as lakhs of devotees use the forest route during the annual padyatra. Local residents alleged that earlier sightings of leopard movement were ignored. Following the tragedy, authorities have banned trekking between 6 pm and 6 am at Sri Kshetra Male Mahadeshwara Betta and urged pilgrims to travel only during daytime using authorised transport. –IANS

Employer threatens woman after she asked for leave

A cyber centre owner was arrested by Kengeri police on charges of criminal intimidation for allegedly threatening a female employee after she sought permission to extend her leave. The accused has been identified as Syed (48), owner of Muskan Cyber Centre in Kengeri. He was arrested on Friday afternoon following a complaint lodged by the victim, Lakshmi, who had been working at the centre for the past five years. According to police, Lakshmi had taken three days of leave for personal reasons. When she returned and requested a few more days off, Syed allegedly abused her using foul language and issued life-threatening threats. A video of the incident, which later went viral, showed the accused shouting that he would publicly assault and harm her on the road. –BMB

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LANDLORD
KAN 2D (UA) 9:50 AM, 01:30 PM, 04:30 PM, 07:25 PM, 10:25 PM
ANAGANAGA OKA RAJU
TEL 2D (UA)
07:30 PM, 10:15 PM
MANA SHANKARA VARA PRASAD GARU
TEL 2D (UA) 04:00 PM, 10:30 PM
Dolby Cinema 11:30 AM, 11:35 AM, 06:40 PM
NARI NARI NADUMA MURARI
TEL 2D (UA)
12:25 PM, 10:00 PM
BORDER 2
HIN 2D (UA) 09:45 AM, 06:15 PM
Dolby Cinema 02:50 PM, 10:00 PM
BABY GIRL
MAL 2D (UA) 03:35 PM, 7:30 PM
DHURANDHAR
HIN 2D (UA) 02:45 PM
MARTY SUPREME
ENG 2D (A) 04:15 PM, 10:15 PM
CHATHA PACHA
MAL 2D (U) 12:55 PM
MERCY
ENG 3D (UA) 01:10 PM, 07:05 PM
PRIMATE
ENG 2D (UA) 11:00 AM, 09:45 PM
UPCOMING ATTRACTIONS
RELEASING ON 30TH JAN (FRIDAY)
HIN
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PVR-INOX CINEMAS {PVR - FORUM MALL Kormangala | ORION MALL Yeshwantpur | PHOENIX MARKET CITY K.R. Puram | MSR REGALIA Thanisandra | VEGA CITY MALL Bannerghatta Road | V.R MALL K.R. Puram | VAISHNAVI SAPPHIRE MALL Tumkur Road | SPIRIT MALL Sarjapur Road | AURA CINEMAS Whitefield | GT WORLD MALL Magadi Road | UPTOWN OMR MALL Old Madras Road | SUPERPLEX FALCON CITY Kanakpura Road | BHARTIYA CITY Kannuru | DIRECTORS CUT REX M.G Road | GLOBAL MALL Mysore Road | FORUM CENTRE MALL Mysore | GARUDA MALL Mysore | FIZA MALL Mangalore | INOX - GARUDA Magarath Road | MANTRI Malleswaram | SWAGATH Jayanagar | CENTRAL J.P.Nagar | LIDO Ulsoor | VALUE MALL Whitefield | BROOKFIELD Marathalli | RMZ Yelahanka | MEGAPLEX MALL OF ASIA Bytranpura | GARUDA Yelahanka | SBR HORIZON K.R. Puram | MANIPAL Manipal | SATYAM Mysore | CENTRO Mysore | S MALL Tumkur Road} | CINEPOLIS CINEMAS {MEENAKSHI MALL Bannerghatta Road | SHANTHINIKETAN Whitefield | ORION EAST MALL Banaswadi | LULU MALL TRD Rajajinagar | ETA MALL Binnypet | SJR SPECTRUM Arekere | CITY CENTRE MALL Mangalore} | MOVIETIME CINEMAS {RR Nagar | Davangere | Bellary} | BHARATH CINEMAS {Mangalore | Manipal | Shivamoga | Deralkatte} | GOPALAN CINEMAS {SIGNATURE Old Madras Road | INNOVATION MALL Dairy Circle | GRAND MALL Old Madras Road | ARCH MALL Mysore Road | LEGACY Mysore Road} | CINEPHELI {HSR Layout} | INNOVATIVE MULTIPLEX {Marathalli} | NEW FANGLED CINEMA {MG Road} | MIRAJ CINEMAS {Sunkadakatte} | V CINEMAS {Ram Murthy Nagar} | DRC CINEMA {Mysore} | AMB CINEMAS {Gandhi Nagar} | SWAGATH SHANKARNAG {M.G.Road}.

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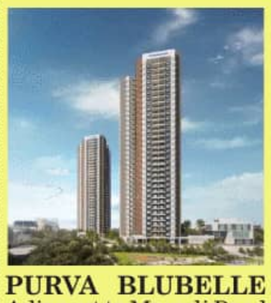

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Highest number of cases recorded in South Division

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

excuses offered by violators are: they are local residents; they are heading to a nearby medical shop; or that taking a U-turn would mean a longer distance. Many also cite emergencies such as hospital visits or claim they are merely short-cutting to save time.

"Since we encounter the same people every day and they present these excuses, we often let them go," an official said, adding that this leniency has led to a rampant increase in violations. Not anymore. "There will be zero tolerance for wrong-side driving. Reasons like 'I am going to the hospital' or 'it is only a short distance' will not be accepted. Even if a police official is standing there, these violators pull their vehicle along and come by and when we question them, they say, we didn't ride, we only pulled the vehicle. As for the fine, they just casually say they will pay later," an officer said.

According to data released by the Traffic Police, the highest number of cases were recorded in the South Division with 2,559 bookings, followed by the West Division with 2,414, the North Division with 2,377 and the East Division with 2,300 cases booked till January 23.

Last year 3,02,962 cases were reported on average, that is about 35 cases every hour, 830 cases a day, and over 25,000 cases a month.

According to data, 24% challans have been distributed directly by police personnel through physical intervention, where enforcement actions are supported by evidence from body-worn cameras. Another 5% were identified through contactless methods, while 2% were issued through The Digital Field Traffic Violation Report (FTVR) that is a form of "contactless" enforcement, enabling traffic personnel to issue violation challans based on direct observation. All traffic personnel are authorised to report traffic violations.

Officials stressed that riding or driving against the flow is not merely a minor traffic offence but a serious safety hazard. "A vehicle coming the wrong way becomes an obstruction for every law-abiding road user. It creates panic, forces sudden braking, and increases the risk of fatal accidents, especially on narrow roads and flyovers," the official added.

Traffic officials said that many motorists question the timing of such enforcement drives. "Some complain when we start special drives or catch them violating rules, that they were not given prior notice or any signboards. Recently one person even questioned why fines are being imposed when the roads are in a poor condition. No one should claim that we have not created awareness. That is why we released a video. At least those who have watched it, should follow the rules," an official said.

In the video, the official clarifies that no excuses will be entertained anymore, including claims of medical emergencies. "It is a matter of mindset. If you need to take a shortcut, park your vehicle and walk to the nearest medical shop, which is hardly 50 metres away," he said.

He warned that anyone violating the rules for any reason and showing negligence will be fined and their driving licence will be sent for suspension.

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I Naveen S/O, Raja G R/o No.15/1, Kempanna Cross, Doddamavalli Post, Basavanagudi Post, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560004 have changed my name to Naveen R.

I, Hanamantgoud Patil S/o Sahebagouda Patil R/o At And Post Kannur,Tq, Vijayapura 586119,KA have changed my name to Hanamantagouda Patil For All Purposes.

I, HEYSRATNAM SELVARAJ, D/o IYADURAI, residing at LCQ 28, Lowry Memorial College, Opp. K R Puram Railway Station, B Narayanapura, Dooravani Nagar Post, Bangalore-560016, Karnataka, India, declare that I have changed my name HEYSRATNAM SELVARAJ (Old Name) to HEYS RATNAM IYADURAI (New Name), henceforth I shall be known and called as HEYS RATNAM IYADURAI (New Name) for all purposes, vide affidavit dated: 21/01/2026 sworn to before K.B. Sadhashivappa, Advocate and Notary at Bangalore

I, Umme Farha W/o Syed Wajid R/o No 35 Muniswamy Road Tasker Town, Shivaji Nagar, Bengaluru - 560051 Have Changed My Name to Umme Farhan for All Purposes.

I, Devi. R R/o No.4, Ground Floor, 2-F Street, 60 Feet Road, Bhoopasandra, Bengaluru-560094, changed My Name from Devi To Devi. R to all further purposes. (Reference Date of Birth 10/09/1978.) R full form is Ravikumar.

I SURYAPRIYA MAZUMDAR R/o C-301, 3rd Floor, Candeur Signature, Ward No 149, Gunjur Village, Near Varthur Police Station, Varthur, P.O Varthur, Dist Bengaluru, Karnataka-560087, have changed my name to SURYAPRIYA MAJUMDAR

WE, HAKIM KATKA & ALFIYA KATKA R/at No.B-1006, Pariwar Pragathi, Gottigere, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore-560083 have changed Our Minor Son Name From TAHA HAKIM KATKA to TAHA KATKA vide affidavit dated:24/1/2026 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

I Kirthiga Devi Malayalaswamy D/O, Govinda Swamy Venkatan Chettiar R/o No.11, Sri Kumaran Residency, 5th Floor, Venkatappa Street, Mavalli, Basavanagudi Post, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560004 have changed my name to M Kiruthiga Devi.

I, ALFIYA W/o HAKIM KATKA R/at No.B-1006, Pariwar Pragathi, Gottigere, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore-560083 have changed my name to ALFIYA KATKA vide affidavit dated: 24/1/2026 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

I, Sreelakshmi. P R/o Villa No. 54, NVT Life Square, Nagondahalli, Whitefield, BLR-560066, changed My Name from Sreelakshmi Ajji Kariyappala to Sreelakshmi. P to all further purposes.(Reference Date of Birth 22/06/1983). P full form is Palyam.

I MURALI Y S/o YOGESWARAPPA K permanently residing at No 314, Kariyamma Devi Nilaya, Kanakashree layout, Byrathi, Bangalore North, Karnataka-560077, have changed my minor child name from SANVIKA M to ANVIKA M for all future purposes

Change of Name

I, Ashok Kumar.C S/o late Chikkarangappa, residing at Channarayanadurga village, C.N.Durga hobli, Koratagere taluk, Tumkur District, stating that, my name is correct in Aadhar card (6706 9509 0072) and all documents as Ashok Kumar.C. But in my son's (Balaram.A) SSLC marks card, my name wrongly entered as Ashok.C. The above said both the names are one person and that's mine only. So my name should be changed in my son's SSLC marks card as Ashok Kumar.C. All the above information is true and correct. Therefore, I have sworn before notary and advocate Madhusudhana, vide affidavit dated 16.01.2026.

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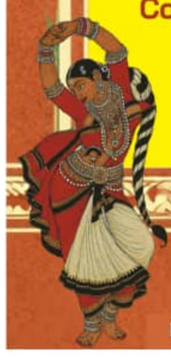

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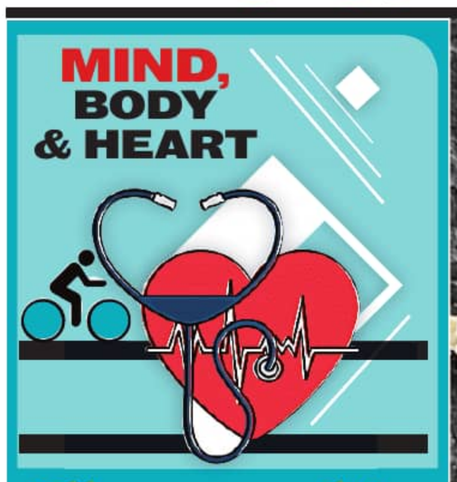

All you need to know about...

Childhood vaccines

No risk of epilepsy
Routine childhood vaccinations are not associated with an increased risk of epilepsy in young children, according to a new study led by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Aluminium adjuvant
The study, published in The Journal of Pediatrics, showed that the aluminum used as vaccine adjuvants also does not increase the risk of the neurological condition. "Incident epilepsy was not associated with up-to-date vaccination status or cumulative vaccine aluminum exposure among children less than 4 years of age," said the team, including those from the Marshfield Clinic Research Institute in Marshfield, US.

Study
The study included 2,089 children diagnosed as having epilepsy from age 1 year to less than 4 years. These were compared with 20,139 children without epilepsy based on age, sex, and health care site. The majority of the kids were boys (54 per cent) and between the ages of 1 year and 23 months (69 per cent). No higher risk following the childhood vaccine schedule was observed, stated the researchers.

What are adjuvants
To assess vaccine exposure, the team examined the schedule for routine childhood vaccines and their cumulative aluminum exposure from vaccine adjuvants, measured in milligrams. Aluminum salts -- including formulations of aluminum hydroxide (AH), amorphous aluminum hydroxyphosphate sulfate, aluminum phosphate (AP), combined AH and AP (AH/AP), and aluminum potassium sulfate --are commonly used as adjuvants in vaccines. While this helps to enhance immune response, it has been a focus of safety concerns. However, the team found that neither measure was associated with a higher risk of epilepsy. **–IANS**

Fitness fuel

Pecan oats energy recipes for all-day strength

CHEWY COCONUT PECAN GRANOLA BARS

INGREDIENTS
- Pecan pieces
- Rolled oats
- Rice cereal
- Dried cranberries
- Coconut flakes
- Coconut oil
- Honey
- Brown sugar
- Vanilla extract
- Salt

METHOD
- Preheat the oven to 325° F; line a square pan with foil and grease it.
- Combine the pecans, rolled oats, rice cereal, dried cranberries, and coconut flakes in a bowl.
- Heat the coconut oil, honey, sugar, vanilla, and salt until melted. Pour over dry ingredients and mix.
- Press the mixture firmly into the pan and bake for 10 minutes in the preheated oven. Flatten again, then bake for seven minutes more.
- Remove from the oven, set aside to cool, then chill for two hours. Cut into bars.

PECAN COFFEE CAKE OVERNIGHT OATS

INGREDIENTS
- Pecan pieces
- Water
- Coconut sugar
- Vanilla
- Cinnamon
- Salt
- Oats
- Chia seeds
- Avocado oil

METHOD
- Toast the pecans in the oven at 325° F for 15 minutes. Blend of them into pecan flour; remove half the flour.
- To the remaining flour, add water, coconut sugar, vanilla, cinnamon, and salt to make a smooth pecan milk.
- Mix the oats and chia with the pecan milk.
- Mix together the leftover pecan flour, chopped pecans, coconut sugar, cinnamon, and avocado oil to make a crumble.
- Refrigerate the oats mixture and crumble separately.
- Serve the oats generously topped with a generous amount of crumble.

NO-SUGAR PECAN NUT DATES BAR

INGREDIENTS
- 1 cup pecans
- ½ cup oats
- 2 tbsp peanut butter
- 1 tbsp virgin coconut oil or melted butter
- 2 to 3 tbsp maple syrup (or honey or jaggery to sweeten)
- Pinch of salt
- 12 to 13 soft dates
- Roasted pecans to garnish

METHOD
- Start preparing the base by dry roasting the pecans and oats separately. Then grind both together to a coarse mixture.
- Add the peanut butter, coconut oil or melted butter, maple syrup (or other sweetener, and a pinch of salt.
- Mix well and press into a lined tray.
- Blend the soft dates with warm water to a smooth paste to make the date caramel. Spread evenly over the pecan base. Chill for an hour.
- Garnish with roasted pecans.

Recipes from American Pecans, curated by renowned nutrition expert Kavita Devgan for Femina; Images for illustrative purposes

Date with King
Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan on Saturday announced the release date of his upcoming film "King", which will hit the big screen on December 24

BangaloreMirror | 13
Sunday, January 25, 2026
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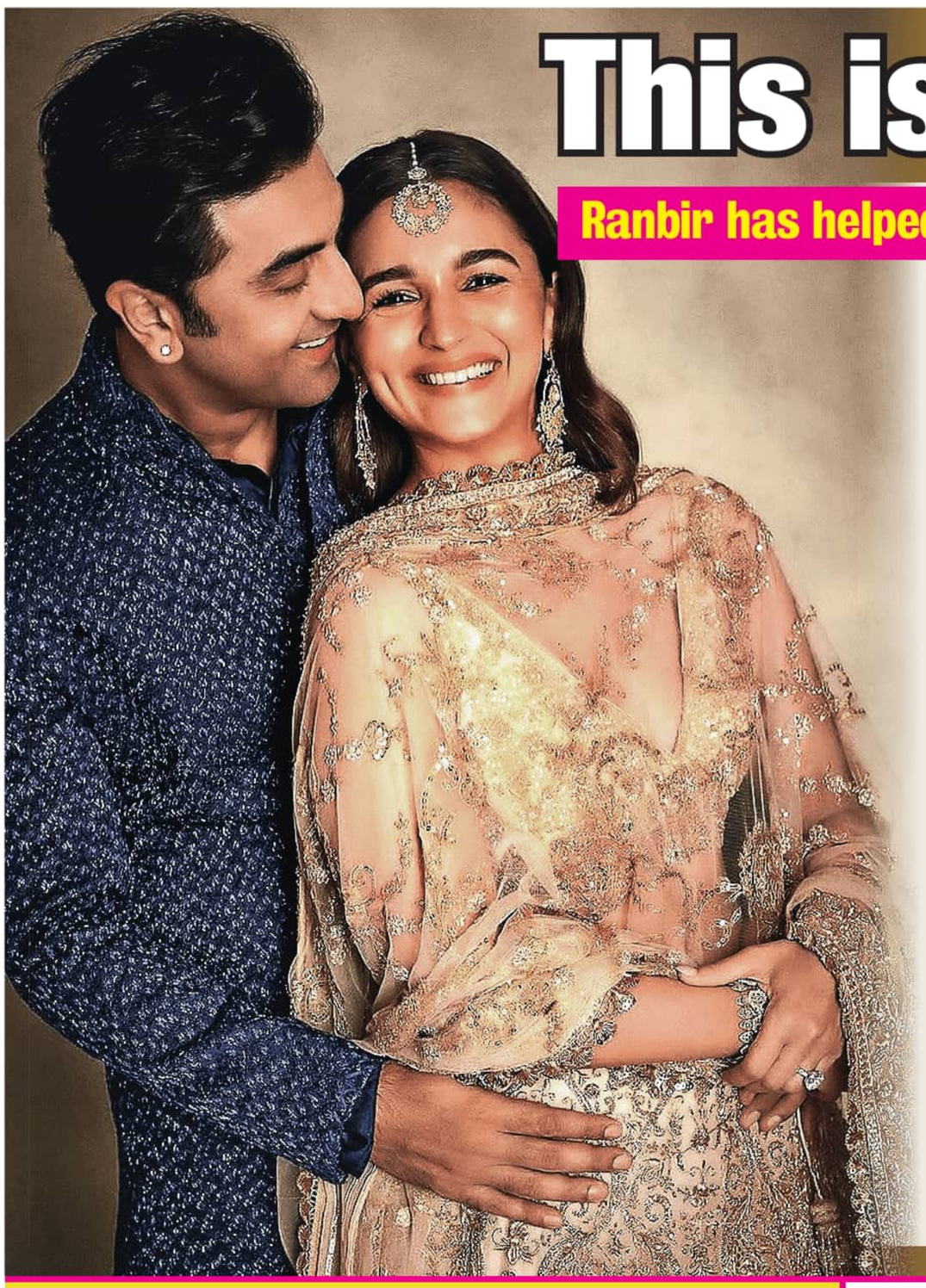


This is the buzz

Ranbir has helped Alia become a 'non-gossiper'

In a world where film sets and vanity vans often double up as mini-social ecosystems, full of whispered updates, harmless speculation and the occasional spicy rumor — Alia Bhatt is admitting she once happily participated in the ecosystem. But something, or rather someone, changed that habit. And that someone was Ranbir Kapoor.

In a clip that is now doing the rounds which seems from the time Alia was promoting Gangubai Kathiwadi, during her conversation with Siddharth Kannan, Alia spoke about a trait of Ranbir's that she finds rare in an industry constantly buzzing with chatter. She said, "I've not heard Ranbir say one bad thing about anyone in my life. And that's what I love about him. He believes in only saying good things otherwise don't say anything. And I think that's, it's amazing like I really respect that. I mean I do a little bit do gossip but he doesn't even like gossip. So because of Ranbir I've become a non-gossiper."

The honesty of that confession reveals more than just a cute marital anecdote — it offers a glimpse into the couple's dynamic and the ripple effect of temperament in relationships.

Bollywood couples are often discussed in terms of box office, brand value and public appearances. But occasionally, anecdotes like this show how partners influence each other in subtle but real ways.

The couple who first met on the sets of Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Black are all set to share screen space with Bhansali with Love & War along with Vicky Kaushal and the film is slated to release this year. **–ETimes**

Olden heroine charm

Bollywood superstar Deepika Padukone, in a throwback interview with Lehren TV, during her debut film Om Shanti Om, had credited filmmaker Farah Khan recognising her charm that reflected the grace of old Hindi cinema actresses.

Deepika, in the interview was heard saying, "I think Farah knew or felt that I have that olden actresses style. If you have seen the song, you can see my hand movements like that, of olden times heroines. I think somewhere Farah felt that I have a little bit of the olden-day actresses in me."

She also mentioned that it was probably because of this, Farah did not need to place too much emphasis on her body language or character detailing, refering to her movie's character where she is seen as a retro Bollywood star heroine, Shantipriya.

The actress further revealed that she, personally has closely studied legendary actresses like Hema Malini, Madhubala and Vyjayanthimala to understand their grace and screen presence. "I studied their films carefully and tried a little bit like them," said Deepika.

Speaking about her look in the film, Deepika clarified that it was not copied from any specific actress. "There are no looks of different actresses. It is only inspired by the 70s. We have not copied any old Indian actress," she explained.

The actress had also recalled detailed discussions with ace designer Manish Malhotra, Bharat and Doris before the shoot of Om Shanti Om, highlighting on how several days were spent finalising hairstyles and costume fittings. "We were very prepared before the shooting," she added. **–IANS**

Mouni's fangirl moment

Actress Mouni Roy enjoyed a fangirl moment as she got the opportunity to share the stage with her 'favourite' Karisma Kapoor.

Mouni took to the Stories section of her Instagram handle and posted a selfie with Karisma. While the 'Naagin' actress posed in an off shoulder black dress, Karisma looked stunning in a purple outfit.

Looking at the pic, it seems like the two got together for the shoot of a reality show. However, no details were revealed in the post.

Expressing her delight at meeting Karisma, Mouni wrote on the photo-sharing app, "@therealkarishmaKapoor Had the lovelist fortune of meeting my fav & sharing the stage with her (sic)."

Referring to the female leads of the popular American show, "Friends", she added. "She is my Rachel, Monica, Phoebe blended into one. Love you long time x."

While Jennifer Aniston was seen as Rachel on the show, Courteney Cox and Lisa Kudrow played Monica and Phoebe.

She further added the "Pyar Dilon Ka Mela Hai" track crooned by Sonu Nigam and Alka Yagnik from Karisma and Salman Khan's movie "Dulhan Hum Le Jayenge" as the background score.

Mouni often uses social media to keep the netizens updated with her personal and professional life.

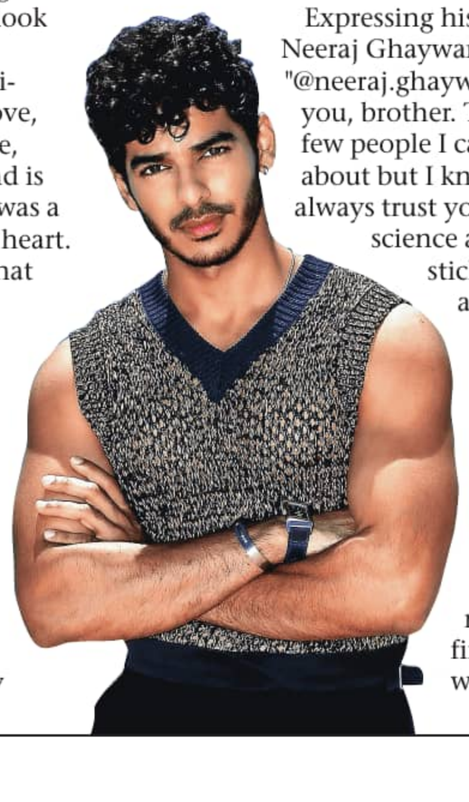
Recently, Mouni jumped on the 2016 trend and reflected on her 'Naagin' days. One of the photos from the post captioned, "Take me back! 2016 X-ray", had Mouni dressed as her "Naagin" character, Shivaanya. She was seen posing in a pink sari on the sets of her show, standing near the set of a temple.

Mouni gave an insight into some of her personal moments from 10 years ago such as Mouni and her friend Jiya Mustafa sharing a light-hearted moment, relaxing at home, posing with her 'Naagin' co-star Aashka Goradia, she shared it all. **–IANS**

Ishaan calls Homebound a piece of his heart

Actor Ishaan Khatter used social media to express his emotions after his film "Homebound" lost the race for the Oscars. He took to his official Instagram handle and published a couple of BTS photos and videos from the shoot, along with a heartfelt note.

Revealing that he will always look back at the entire experience with love, Ishaan wrote, "Homebound is and always was a piece of my heart. It's a story that took us through a journey inwards after daring to look outside the bubble we identify ourselves in. As difficult a reality as it mirrors, this film has always ultimately been hopeful to me in every way I can relate to it, as a human being, as a cinema person.. and a young actor. Today as we somewhat come to an end of one part of its journey, I know I will always look back at it with love and gratitude.. And as a sort of moral compass.."



Expressing his gratitude to Neeraj Ghaywan, he added, "@neeraj.ghaywan I love you, brother. There are very few people I can say this about but I know I can always trust your conscience as a yardstick." "Love to all the heroes behind the camera and to all of you who owned this film and spoke of it like your own. Homebound no feeling is final," he wrote. **–IANS**

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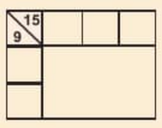
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

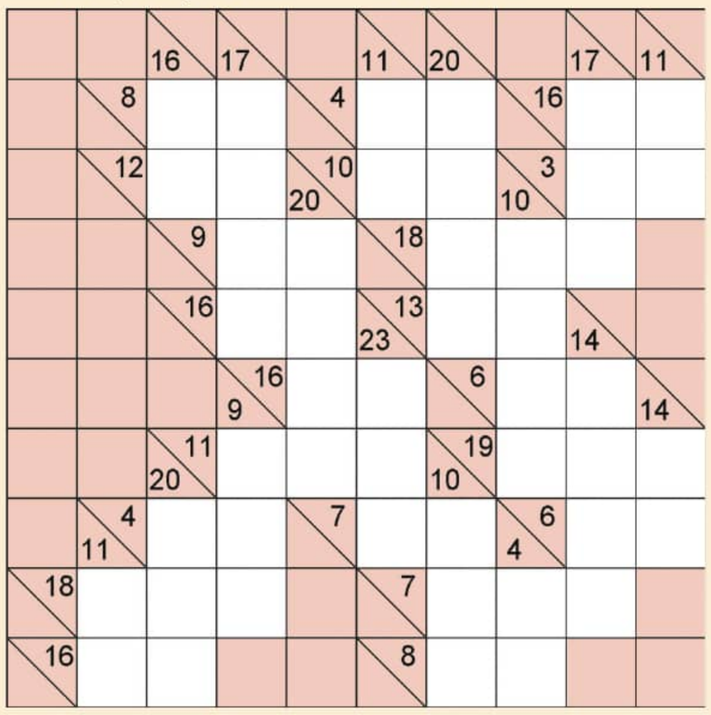
125^(-1/3) x 49^(-1/2) x 10^(0) = ?

Kakuro

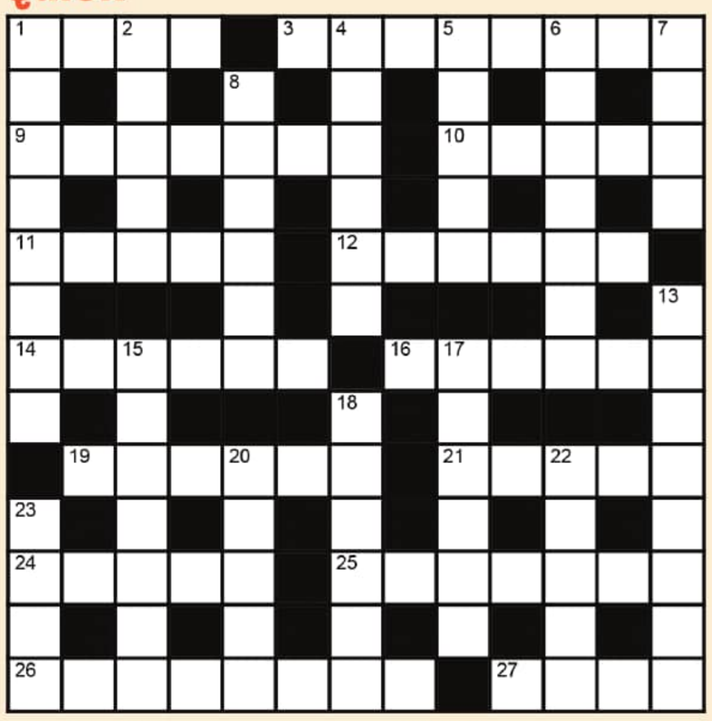
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Ceremony (4)
3 Capital of UAE? (3,5)
9 Leaves or goes away (7)
10 Strong frothy beer (5)
11 Drained slowly (5)
12 Tsarist edicts (6)
14 Karnataka's popular idli variant (6)
16 Narrow sea arms (6)
19 One of the Fates (6)
21 Wrote a computer program (5)
24 Serious danger (5)
25 Ms Padukone of Bollywood (7)
26 Ta-ta in Tokyo (8)
27 Gambler's concern (4)

DOWN

1 Old British soldiers–in colourful uniforms? (8)
2 Yellowish-brown gemstone (5)
4 Slang for a quarrel or a collapse? (4-2)
5 Greek letter (5)
6 Enhance (7)
7 Concerning, in legal terms–"rein" anagram? (2,2)
8 Give ___ where ____ is due? (same word) (6)
13 Second-hand automobiles? (4,4)
15 Hypersensitivity (7)
17 Twelfths of a foot (6)
18 Cattle foodstuffs? (6)
20 Hooked claw (5)
22 Desiccated (5)
23 Mimics (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: J EQUALS T

OR AZKR JVR EHRTREJY IZH JVR JRQTVRH'Y YQGR.

Linemaro

I would say God bless you, but it looks like he already did

Mindchow

He who fights with monsters might take care lest he thereby become a monster. And if you gaze for long into an abyss, the abyss gazes also into you

Joke of the day

Nature is by and large to be found out of doors, a location where, it cannot be argued, there are never enough comfortable chairs

Loop

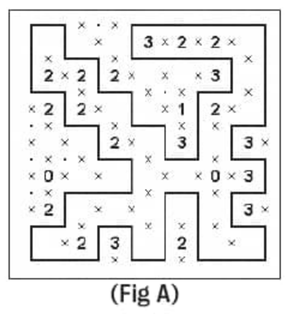
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

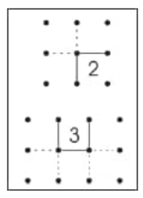
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

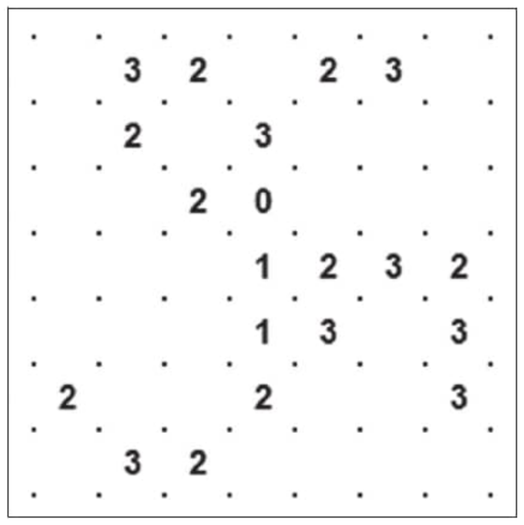
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



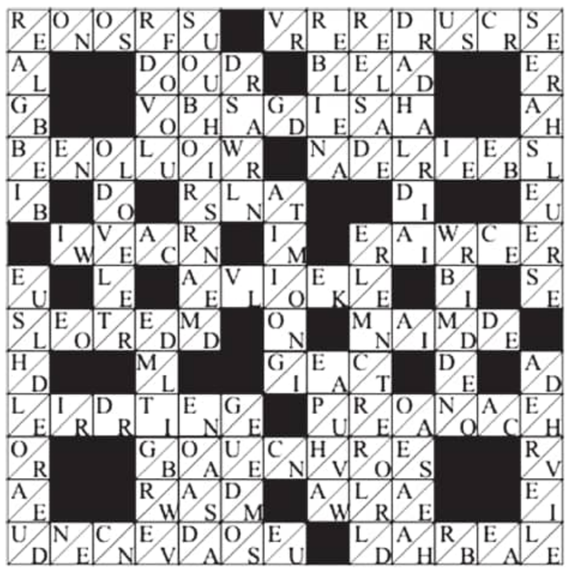
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



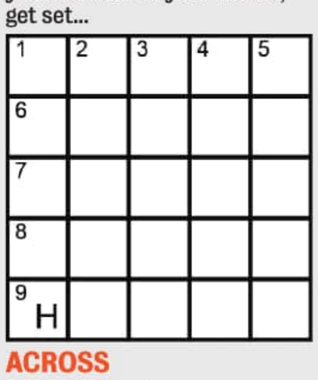
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

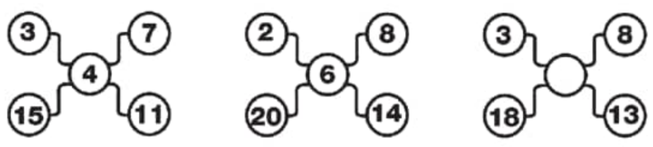
1 St sac; 6 On cam;
7 I mine; 8 A tine;
9 I hock

DOWN

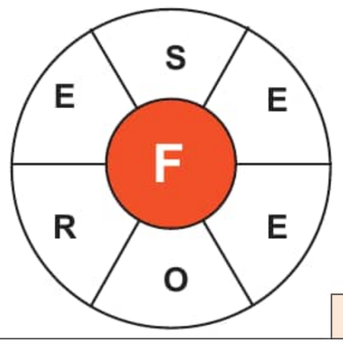
1 H mist; 2 Comae;
3 In CIA; 4 Con it;
5 Snake

Mensapuzzle

Which number is missing in the last grid?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; **04** Good; **05** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

			6		8			
6	5						7	9
4				5				3
		9	2		3	4		
5		3	7		9	8		2
		1	5		4	9		
7				3				6
1	9						2	5
			1		5			

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 13

4 5 6 9

Medium = 41

2 4 5 6

Hard = 5

1 2 3 4

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

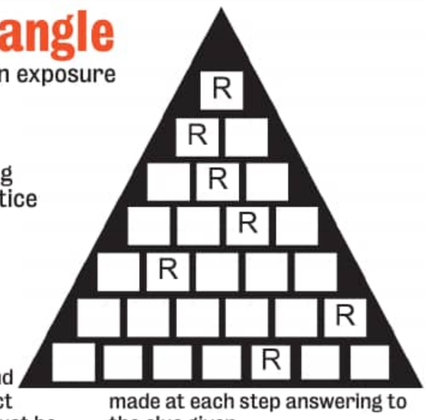
Differences: 1. Phone is moved. 2. Paper is added on desk. 3. Hair is different. 4. Reflection lines in window are reversed. 5. Top of desk is wider. 6. Chair leg is moved.

Riddler

Find a rhyme for each word below so you end up with a familiar three-word phrase in the form "__, __, and __" 1. Flop, Crook, Glisten 2. Pin, Brace, Though 3. Versed, Beckoned, Heard 4. Leg, Sorrow, Wheel

Alpha triangle

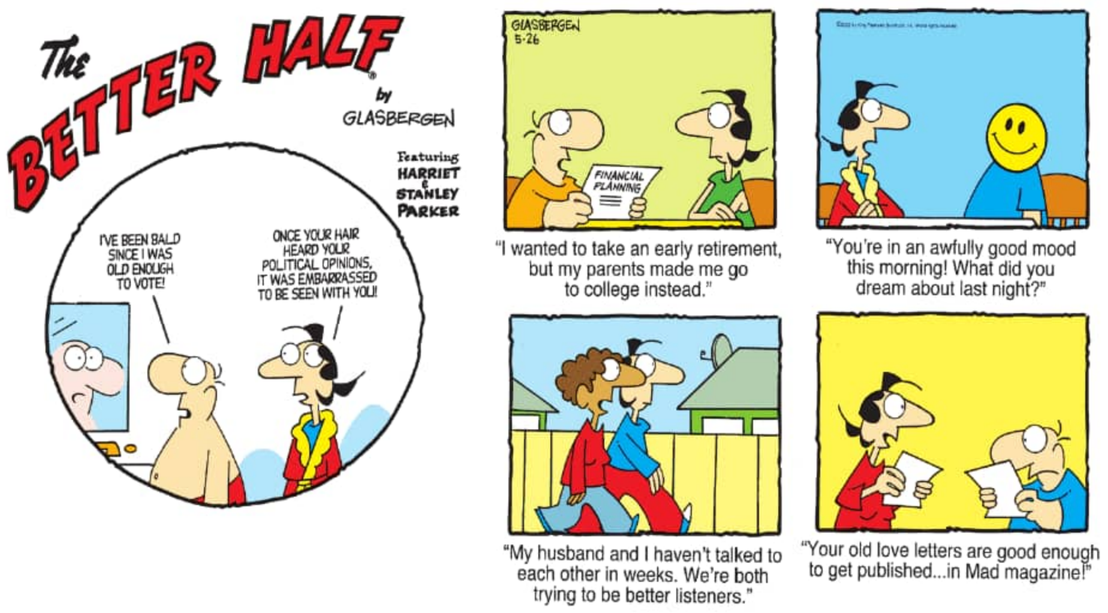
1 A unit of radiation exposure
2 Concerning
3 Mine yield
4 Tender; hurting
5 Unrhymed writing
6 Large printed notice
7 Evicts an alien



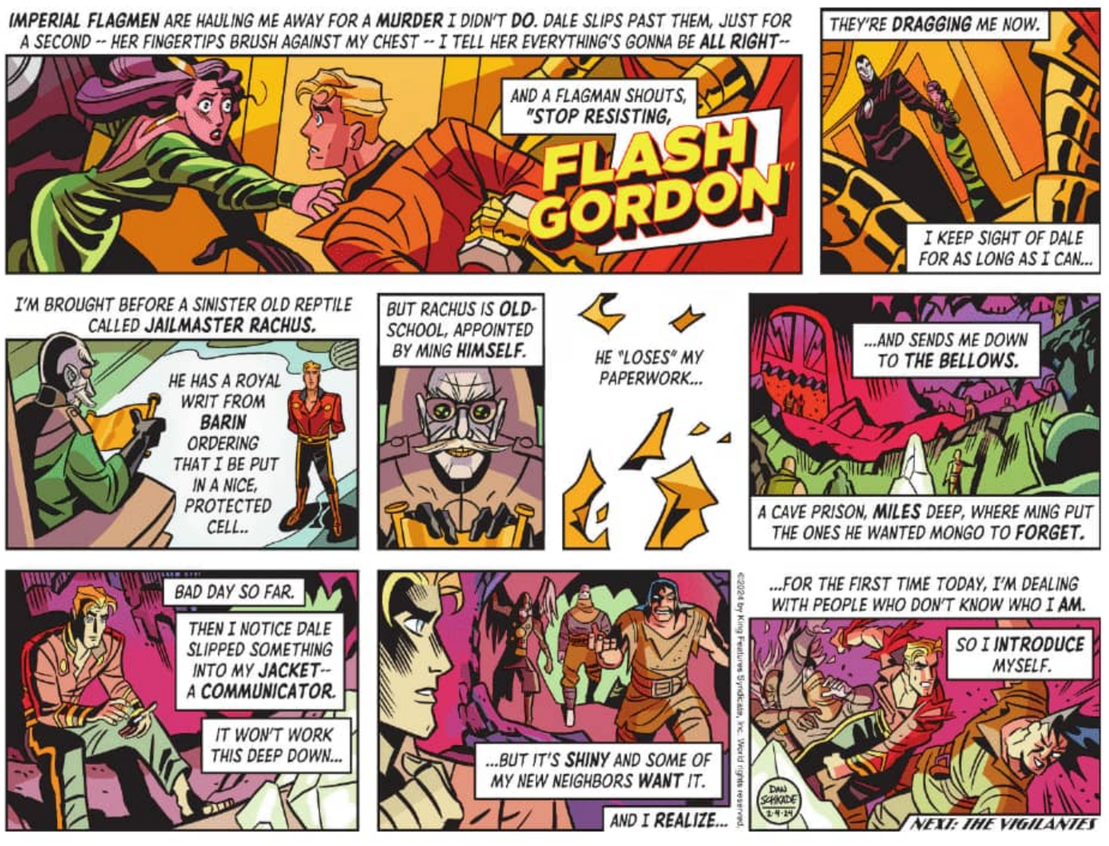
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

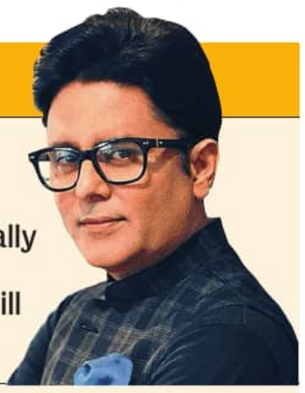

The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
Featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
I'VE BEEN BALD SINCE I WAS OLD ENOUGH TO VOTE!
ONCE YOUR HAIR HEARD YOUR POLITICAL OPINIONS, IT WAS EMBARRASSED TO BE SEEN WITH YOU!
GLASBERGEN 5-26
FINANCIAL PLANNING
"I wanted to take an early retirement, but my parents made me go to college instead."
"You're in an awfully good mood this morning! What did you dream about last night?"
"My husband and I haven't talked to each other in weeks. We're both trying to be better listeners."
"Your old love letters are good enough to get published...in Mad magazine!"

BABY BLUES
BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT
WHAT'S THE POINT OF ALL THIS?
DID WREN JUST EAT THAT BUG?
WHEN IS LUNCH?
DO I HAVE DONUT CRUMBS IN MY HAIR?
CAN I SIT IN THE FRONT SEAT ON THE WAY BACK?
WHY DIDN'T MOM WANT TO COME?
IS THAT A STORM CLOUD?
DO WORMS EVER GET REVENGE ON THE FISH?
WHY ARE MY SHOES WET?
DID SOMEBODY JUST TOOT?
WHAT HAPPENS TO THE FISH AFTER WE CATCH THEM?
IS IT ALWAYS THIS BORING?
IS THAT A MOSQUITO BITE OR A BOOGER?
DO DOGS GET HEADACHES?
WHERE'S THE BATHROOM?
WHAT TIME IS IT NOW?
ARE WE DONE YET?
ARE WE SINKING?
HOW WAS THE FISHING TRIP?
I'LL SAY, "CURIOUS."


IMPERIAL FLAGMEN ARE HAULING ME AWAY FOR A MURDER I DIDN'T DO. DALE SLIPS PAST THEM, JUST FOR A SECOND -- HER FINGERTIPS BRUSH AGAINST MY CHEST -- I TELL HER EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE ALL RIGHT--
AND A FLAGMAN SHOUTS, "STOP RESISTING,
FLASH GORDON
THEY'RE DRAGGING ME NOW.
I KEEP SIGHT OF DALE FOR AS LONG AS I CAN...
I'M BROUGHT BEFORE A SINISTER OLD REPTILE CALLED JAILMASTER RACHUS.
HE HAS A ROYAL WRIT FROM BARIN ORDERING THAT I BE PUT IN A NICE, PROTECTED CELL...
BUT RACHUS IS OLD-SCHOOL, APPOINTED BY MING HIMSELF.
HE "LOSES" MY PAPERWORK...
...AND SENDS ME DOWN TO THE BELLOWS.
A CAVE PRISON, MILES DEEP, WHERE MING PUT THE ONES HE WANTED MONGO TO FORGET.
BAD DAY SO FAR.
THEN I NOTICE DALE SLIPPED SOMETHING INTO MY JACKET-- A COMMUNICATOR.
IT WON'T WORK THIS DEEP DOWN...
...BUT IT'S SHINY AND SOME OF MY NEW NEIGHBORS WANT IT.
AND I REALIZE...
...FOR THE FIRST TIME TODAY, I'M DEALING WITH PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW WHO I AM.
SO I INTRODUCE MYSELF.
NEXT: THE VIGILANTES

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR



If it's your birthday today

Embrace the call to adventure and intellectual exploration this year. Long-distance travel or engaging in higher education will fundamentally change your life perspective. Look for opportunities abroad or in different cultural settings. Your enthusiasm for life is contagious; it will draw in wonderful new opportunities and connections.

Aries Mar 21–Apr 20

Financial progress strengthens security as important paperwork moves forward smoothly. Steady wellness habits support vitality. Exciting work challenges bring opportunity. Caring for loved ones feels fulfilling.

Taurus Apr 21–May 20

Past investments bring encouraging returns. Healthy routines uplift energy. Networking advances professional goals. Understanding strengthens relationships. Travel with caution. Planning for the future brings clarity.

Gemini May 21–Jun 21

Delayed payments resolve soon. Home-cooked meals support wellbeing. Career opportunities require quick thoughtful action. Romantic connections grow naturally. Professional travel brings fresh insight.

Cancer Jun 22–July 23

Well-being improves through balanced habits. Professional talents shine confidently. Family conversations deepen trust. Stay patient in property discussions. Financial clarity arrives gradually.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Profitable ventures bring satisfaction. Wellness grows through consistent activity. Professional diplomacy eases workplace tensions. Home gatherings uplift your spirit. Travel plans inspire growth.

Virgo Aug 24–Sep 23

Healthy habits elevate your energy. Financial comfort grows steadily. Career momentum strengthens. Family events bring joy. Travel plans excite you. Property opportunities develop positively. Confidence rises as your goals move forward beautifully.

Libra Sep 24–Oct 22

Unexpected financial gifts brighten your day. Abundant energy supports productivity. Family guidance enhances career clarity. Social settings require adaptability. Property decisions need patience.

Scorpio Oct 23–Nov 22

Wealth-building goals progress smoothly. Focused work brings success. Home ideas inspire comfort. Travel brings warmth and connection. Emotional moments feel special. Opportunities unfold positively when approached with gratitude.

Sagittarius Nov 23–Dec 22

Financial security strengthens. Healthy choices support vitality. Professional growth expands through skillful action. Family surprises bring happiness. Travel requires mindfulness. Property aligned with your budget appears within reach.

Capricorn Dec 23–Jan 20

Saving thoughtfully supports stability. Wellness groups inspire motivation. Professional calm encourages wise decisions. Family changes bring learning and resilience. Relaxing travel restores balance.

Aquarius Jan 21–Feb 19

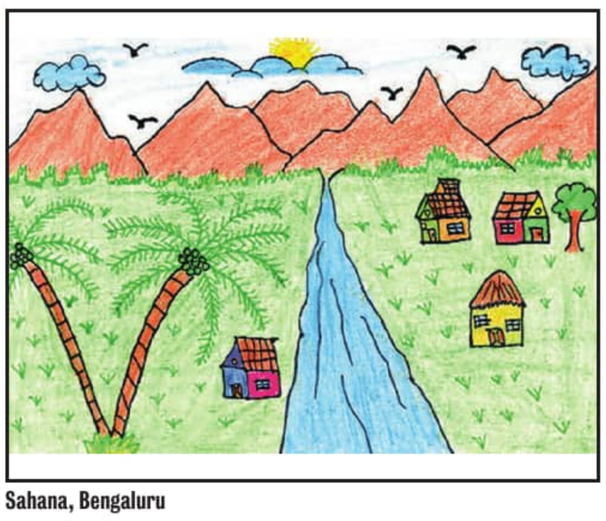
Healthy initiatives bring lasting benefits. Finances brighten your perspective. Work progresses smoothly. Household adjustments create harmony. Driving confidence increases. Property returns feel encouraging. Your day aligns with happiness.

Pisces Feb 20–Mar 20

Meeting deadlines builds pride. Investments bring fruitful outcomes. Workplace accomplishments feel satisfying. Home improvements enhance comfort. Adventure adds joy. Property opportunities appear favourable.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE



Sahana, Bengaluru

Anushika, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

1/125 ·(1/3) x 1/49·(1/2) x 10·(0)
1/3√125 x 1/√49 x 1
1/5 x 1/7 x 1
1/35 x 1 = 1/35

BULL'S EYE

fore, FORESEE, free, reef, serf

QUOTE UNCODE

We love the precepts for the teacher's sake.

FAST FIVE

S	C	A	T	S
M	A	C	O	N
I	M	I	N	E
T	E	N	I	A
H	O	I	C	K

STRIKE OUT

R	O	O	F	S		V	E	R	D	E
A		O	U	D		L	E	A		R
B		O	B	A	D	I	A	H		A
B	E	L	L	O	W		A	D	L	I	B	S
I		O		R	N	A		I			E	
S	E	R	E	D		N		N	I	D	E	
U		E		E	V	O	K	E		I		S
	I	V	A	N		M		R	A	W	E	R
S	E	R	E	D		N		N	I	D	E	
H		M			G	E	T		E		D	
E	R	R	I	N	G		P	R	A	N	C	E
R		G	A	U	C	H	O	S				V
E		R	S	M		A	L	E				I
D	E	C	E	A	S	E		L	A	B	E	L

QUICK

R	I	T	E		A	B	U	D	H	A	B	I
E		O		C		U		E		U		N
D	E	P	A	R	T	S		L	A	G	E	R
C		A		E		T		T		M		E
O	O	Z	E	D		U	K	A	S	E	S	
					P							
A				I								U
T	H	A	T	T	E		F	I	R	T	H	S
S		L			F		N					E
C	L	O	T	H	O		C	O	D	E	D	
A		E		A		D		H		R		C
P	E	R	I	L		D	E	E	P	I	K	A
	E		G		O		E		S		E	R
S	A	Y	O	N	A	R	A		O	D	D	S

RIDDLER

1. Stop, Look, and Listen,
2. Win, Place, and Show,
3. First, Second, and Third &
4. Beg, Borrow, and Steal

MENSA PUZZLE

5. In each grid numbers move clockwise in steps given by the central number.

SUDOKU

9	3	7	6	2	8	5	1	4
6	5	8	3	4	1	2	7	9
4	1	2	9	5	7	6	8	3
8	7	9	2	6	3	4	5	1
5	4	3	7	1	9	8	6	2
2	6	1	5	8	4	9	3	7
7	8	5	4	3	2	1	9	6
1	9	4	8	7	6	3	2	5
3	2	6	1	9	5	7	4	8

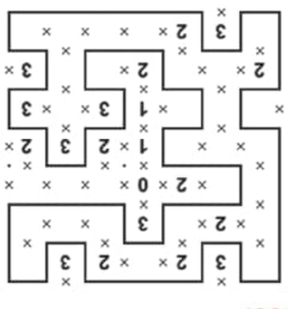
ALPHA TRIANGLE

R, Re, Ore, Sore, Prose, Poster, Deports.

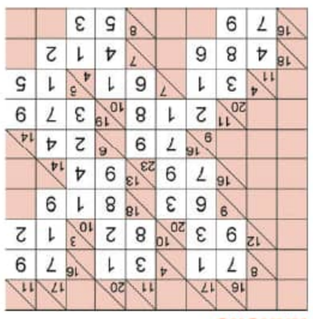
GO FIGURE

Easy
6 - 5 x 4 + 9 = 13
Medium
2 + 4 x 6 + 5 = 41
Hard
4 / 2 x 3 - 1 = 5

LOOP



KAKURO



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